

GLOSSARY

APPORTIONMENTS

“Apportionments” is another way to say federal funds. An apportionment however is not a transfer of federal funds. Rather, it is an amount of federal funds that a project may be reimbursed for costs after they have been incurred. In this way, the federal-aid highway program is a reimbursement program. Most federal apportionments also require obligation authority before they may be requested.

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT/REHABILITATION (funds)

Bridge replacement/rehabilitation funds are provided for the replacement and rehabilitation of existing bridges. These funds may only be used on bridge projects.

Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (funds)

A type of federal apportionment begun in 1991 with the passage of ISTEA, and continued under Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality funds are to be used for projects which reduce congestion, and improve air quality in specific urban areas that do not meet national air quality standards. A committee of local, state, and federal staff determines whether projects qualify for CMAQ funding.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is a division of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). It is responsible for the administration of federal aviation administration funds and programs.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is a division of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). It administers the federal-aid highway programs of TEA 21.

The Federal Highway Administration cooperates with other divisions of the USDOT and the United States Environmental Protection Agency to prepare and issue regulations. FHWA operates to insure compliance with those federal regulations, and provides support and assistance as requested for the implementation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

FEDERAL RAIL ADMINISTRATION

The Federal Rail Administration (FRA) is a division of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT). It is responsible for the administration of federal rail administration funds and programs.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

All public roads that are not functionally classified as either local roads, or rural minor collectors are now referred to as federal-aid highways.

FUNDING TARGETS

Funding targets are forecasted amounts provided by the Indiana Department of Transportation, for use in developing financially constrained programs. These dollar amounts are multi-year estimates of state and federal revenues only. They do not include local funds. Funding targets are revised annually, as formula data such as statewide gas consumption rates, state and federal tax collections, etc. are updated.

HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS (funds)

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century authorized 1,850 High Priority Projects totaling \$9.3 billion over the next six years. High Priority Project funds are dedicated to these specific projects, and can only be used to carry out development activities for these projects.

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is a multi-modal state agency responsible for carrying out transportation policies and programs for the State of Indiana. These programs involve all modes of transportation including highways, airports, railway, and bike/pedestrian transportation systems. The DOT coordinates these programs in cooperation with local government agencies.

INSTIP

The INSTIP is another name for the Indiana (DOT) Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS)

Intelligent Transportation System is the use of communication and computer technology to provide people with information about current transportation network conditions. The goal of I.T.S. is to provide this information to assist people in avoiding delays and congestion.

INTERSTATE (funds)

Interstate funds are funds that can only be used for projects on the interstate network of highways. These funds are primarily used for the maintenance of the existing interstate network of highways. However, they may also be used for major improvements, and expansion of the interstate system as deemed appropriate by the state.

INTERSTATE SYSTEM

The Interstate system is a national network of highways intended to carry commerce and people across state lines, and by definition spans the nation.

LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY

Local Public Agencies (LPA's) are another term used to refer to the cities, towns and counties that make up the smaller political subdivisions of the State.

LOCAL ROAD

A Local Road is a street used primarily to provide access to properties right next to the road.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING (funds)

Metropolitan Planning funds are federal funds for metropolitan planning organizations to carry out the planning process in their urbanized areas. This use of these funds may include but is not limited to development of the metropolitan plan, development of the metropolitan transportation improvement program, and development of the urbanized work program for planning activities.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

A metropolitan planning organization is an entity, which by law, has lead responsibility for developing transportation plans and programs in urbanized areas that have populations of 50,000 or more.

MINIMUM GUARANTEE (funds)

Minimum Guarantee funds are provided to states to insure they receive 90.5 percent return on its percentage share of contribution to the federal Highway Trust Fund. These funds may be used on a variety of transportation projects, just like Surface Transportation Program funds.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM

The National Highway System is a network of highways designated as important for national commerce and defense. It includes the interstate system of highways, but adds other highways of statewide significance as well. Some categories of federal funds can only be spent on the National Highway System.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM (funds)

The National Highway System funds are funds that can only be used for projects on this network of highways. These funds are primarily used for the maintenance of the existing national highway system network. However, these funds may also be used for major improvements, and expansion of the national highway system as is deemed appropriate by the state.

NON-ATTAINMENT AREA

A non-attainment area is a region of the state that the United States Environmental Protection Agency has designated as not having met national air quality standards for reducing designated pollutants.

OBLIGATION LIMITATION

Obligation limitation is the actual amount of contractual authority provided to a state within a given fiscal year. It limits the amount of apportionments that can actually be used. Historically, obligation limitation has been approximately 90% of the amount of apportionments that Indiana has received as a state.

PHASE

Phase refers to development activities for a project. Historically, there are four primary phases of a project. They are, in order: Selection, Preliminary Engineering (PE), Right-of-Way/Acquisition (RW), and Construction (CN). All projects are selected prior to their beginning preliminary engineering activities, and included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program document.

PROGRAM(S)

A program is a list of projects selected to solve specific transportation problems. A program is guided by a strategy, and supported by a program budget. The Interstate Preservation Program, for example, is a list of all of the Interstate projects statewide. Projects in the Interstate Program were selected systematically to preserve, and expand the interstate network of highways, in support of the statewide transportation plan. (Program strategies are listed at the beginning of this document).

RECREATIONAL TRAILS (funds)

Recreational Trails are federal funds that may be used to provide and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail use. Types of use include trailside and trailhead facilities including provisions to facilitate access for people with disabilities.

REGION

A region is simply a geographic subset of the state of Indiana used for public information purposes. Regions are used to assist the public in finding projects that may affect them in their geographic area.

SPONSOR

A sponsor is the entity responsible for development and completion of a transportation project.

STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP)

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is a document prepared by the Indiana Department of Transportation in corporation with the metropolitan planning organizations across the state. The document covers a minimum of three years, and lists all transportation projects that may use federal highway funds, federal transit funds, or which are “regionally significant”.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (funds)

Surface Transportation Program funds may be used for projects on any road that is not functionally classified as local, or rural minor collectors. Some Surface Transportation Program funds are sub-allocated by population. Other Surface Transportation Program funds can only be spent on safety or transportation enhancements.

TRANSIT

In general, transit refers to the bus passenger service provided to the public.

TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT (funds)

Transportation Enhancement funds are a subset of the Surface Transportation Program category of federal funds. Enhancement funds may be used for a variety of non-traditional transportation activities. The Transportation Enhancement coordinator at INDOT can answer questions about these funds, and the related program.

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT for the 21st CENTURY (TEA-21)

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century is the federal highway legislation passed by the United States Congress in 1998. It provides the law under which federal aid is used for transportation projects across the state of Indiana.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

The Transportation Improvement Program is a document prepared by a metropolitan planning organization in corporation with the Indiana Department of Transportation. The document covers a minimum of three years, and lists all transportation projects that are expected to use federal highway funds, federal transit funds, or which are “regionally significant”.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN

A transportation plan is a document that identifies the transportation facilities and functions, which will be preserved, maintained and improved over the next 20 years. They are then used to guide the development of programs for various areas and facilities across the State of Indiana.

